



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire*

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MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
December 22, 2003**

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**NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND HIGH INTENSITY DRUG TRAFFICKING AREA
(HIDTA) TASK FORCE**

METHUEN MAN SENTENCED FOR CRACK DISTRIBUTION IN SALEM, NH

Re: United States v. Felix Rosario

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Leo Ducey, and Salem Police Chief Paul Donovan announced that FELIX ROSARIO, DOB 5/28/76, of Methuen, MA was sentenced on December 22, 2003 for possession with the intent to distribute cocaine base, aka "crack cocaine" in Salem, NH.

On August 18, 2003, Rosario entered a guilty plea before U.S. District Judge Joseph A. DiClerico, Jr. to an information charging him with possession with intent to distribute cocaine base, aka "crack" cocaine in Salem, NH on November 14, 2004.

At today's sentencing, Judge DiClerico imposed a sentence of 42 months imprisonment followed by a 3-year period of supervised release during which ROSARIO's behavior will be monitored by the U.S. Department of Probation.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated, "This cooperative effort between the DEA, the FBI, and the Salem Police Department involving interstate crack cocaine trafficking is a prime example of the effectiveness of New England HIDTA, and the Northern New England HIDTA Task Force. I will continue to commit federal resources to these efforts."

The arrest resulted from a joint investigation conducted by the DEA's High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Task Force and the Salem Police Department's Drug Unit. The prosecution is being handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph N. Laplante, the Lead Attorney for the District of New Hampshire in the New England Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force ("New England OCDEF").